Yukon

Government of Yukon

Yukon Government NEWS release

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Funding Supports Women's Equality Work

WHITEHORSE - Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Elaine Taylor announced today continued funding of $175,000 towards advancing women's equality in the North. This represents the second year of funding to women's organizations for a total of $520,000 over three years.

"Through the Women's Equality Fund, the Yukon government has significantly increased resources available to women's organizations in support of their work to enhance women's equality while meeting the government's commitment to gender equality in Yukon," Taylor said. "We support the grass roots work being undertaken by women and are pleased to provide longer-term sustainable funding in this regard."

In 2007, the Women's Equality Fund supported human rights research and outreach, violence prevention work, promotion of housing research, increasing the skill sets of Yukon tradeswomen and enhancing public awareness of aboriginal women and governance.

"This government initiative has been instrumental in empowering women to be engaged in this critical juncture of Kaska governance," Liard Aboriginal Women's Society Executive Director Ann Maje Raider said. "As a result, Kaska women are ensuring that the Kaska government is built on the principles of fairness, accountability and

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inclusiveness. Their participation will protect the matrilineal lines in the Kaska national government and institutions."

In 2008, the fund will provide $35,000 to the Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, $35,000 to the Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Society, $35,000 to Les EssentiElles, $35,000 to Yukon Women in Trades and Technology, $13,500 to Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre and $20,000 to the Yukon Status of Women Council.

The Women's Equality Fund is administered by the Women's Directorate.

-30-

Backgrounder: Recipients of the Women's Equality Fund

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RECIPIENTS OF WOMEN'S EQUALITY FUND:

Liard Aboriginal Women's Society (LAWS)		
YEAR 1: 34,000	**YEAR 2:** 35,000	**YEAR 3:** 35,000
PROJECT: To increase public awareness and inform public debate on women's key concerns regarding governance, and to achieve an informed consensus among Kaska women regarding the Kaska National constitution. Contact: Ann Maje Raider, 536-2097		

Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle (WAWC)		
YEAR 1: 34,000	**YEAR 2:** 35,000	**YEAR 3:** 35,000
PROJECT: Set up a WAWC office, hire an Executive Director to build capacity for an Aboriginal Women's Centre in the Yukon;		

develop and design culturally appropriate and relevant programs and services; provide programs and services and advocacy services to its clients. Contact: Adeline Webber, 668-7532

Les EssentiELLES		
YEAR 1: 25,250	**YEAR 2:** 35,000	**YEAR 3:** 35,000
Develop awareness campaigns in French on different themes affecting equality of Yukon women: sexual, verbal and physical violence against young, adult and senior women; the economy and recognition (equal work, equal pay); and the rights of women. Contact: Julie Ménard, 668-2636		

Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre		
YEAR 1: 10,100	**YEAR 2:** 13,500	**YEAR 3:** 13,000
To increase accessibility of the Women's Centre; increase the number of positive, strength-building activities at the centre; raise awareness of issues that limit or reduce the well-being of women; increase the number of women leaders in Yukon; and encourage a greater recognition of the intrinsic value c women. Contact: Cate Innish, 667-2693		

Yukon Status of Women Council		
YEAR 1: 20,000	**YEAR 2:** 20,000	**YEAR 3:** 20,000
Build on the work of the Northern Women and Homelessness project by following up on recommendations made in the report 'A Little Kindness Would Go a Long Way' and promoting the research results to positive affect housing options for women in Yukon. Contact: Charlotte Hrenchuk, 667-4637		

Yukon Human Rights Commission		

YEAR 1: 20,000	YEAR 2: 0	YEAR 3: 0
Research, outreach and consultation with Yukon women and girls to identify gaps in the current legislation in its protection for the human rights of women and girls; and identify barriers to the use of the commission's services by Yukon women and girls. Contact: Lillian McGuire, 667-6226		

TOTAL OVER THREE YEARS: $521,400

Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Elaine Taylor congratulates Julie Menard of Les EssentiElles on receiving $35,000 from the Women's Equality Fund